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## Current Topics

Over 4,000 members of the Maine Teachers' Association gathered in Portland this fall for their annual meeting. One of the outstanding features of the convention was a Chorus of 700, and an Orchestra of 60 members from the high schools of Western Maine. The work performed was "The Bohemian Girl," under the direction of E. S. Pitcher, supervisor of music at Auburn, Maine.

Instrumental classes have recently been organized in the public schools of Flint, Michigan, and the children of that great industrial city have quickly taken advantage of a splendid opportunity to secure at least the beginnings of a musical education. William W. Norton, director of the Flint Community Music Association, and who is responsible for the organization of these classes, writes that there are over 900 children in the piano classes, and 250 taking violin lessons, with smaller groups receiving instruction in other instruments of the orchestra.

St. Paul, Minn., recently celebrated Music Week, and as is usually the case in such demonstrations, the public schools provided a goodly share of the program. Under the direction of Miss Elsie M. Shawe, supervisor of music in the schools, the pupils gave a splendid program consisting of a group of part-songs by a chorus of 400 boys, a group by the Central High School Girls' Glee Club, and another by the combined orchestras of Central and Mechanics Arts High Schools.

White Plains, New York, has an energetic and earnest supervisor in the person of J. Dale Diehl. Mr. Diehl,

who is a clarinet player, for the past two years has been giving lessons to school boys and girls on reed instruments, and by this means has developed a reed section for his prospective band. Recently the White Plains Chamber of Commerce backed him to the extent of \$1,500.00 to guarantee two concerts by the United States Marine Band, the net proceeds of which were \$350.00, which is to be spent in the purchase of band instruments, largely heavy brass. Diehl plans to have his band playing together by the early part of 1922.

Roy Parsons of Highland Park, Michigan, was the leading spirit in a big Music Week program in his city, which was one of the events of Michigan's First Music Week, early in October. The school children of Highland Park provided a large part of each of the daily programs and according to reports did a good job.

Two programs of most unusual interest were given during the annual convention of the National Federation of Music Clubs at Davenport, Iowa, by the school children of the Tri-Cities. The programs are of so much interest that they are printed in full:

### INTERMEDIATE SCHOOLS OF DAVENPORT

Under the Direction of  
MISS ALICE ROGERS

- (a)—War March ..... Mendelssohn
  - (b)—Fragment of Opera "Lucrezia Borgia" ..... Donizetti
  - (c)—March ..... Ascher
- Combined Intermediate Orchestras  
Miss Anna Johannsen, Director
- (a)—The Dancers (from the Spanish) ..... Lacombe
  - (b)—Brahms' Lullaby ..... Arr. by Gilbert
- Three-Part Mixed Chorus  
Miss Alice Rogers, Director

- (a)—Fairy Pipers ..... Brewer  
 (b)—Minnetonka ..... Lieurance  
 (c)—An Open Secret .....

..... Huntington-Woodman  
 Girls Soprano Chorus  
 (Combined Intermediates)

- (a)—Roamin' in the Gloamin' .....  
 ..... Harry Lauder  
 (b)—The Ole Ark's A-Mov'er-in'.  
 ..... Arr. by Guion  
 (c)—Tally Ho ..... Franco Leoni  
 (d)—Keep on Hopin' .....

..... Kathleen Heron-Maxwell  
 Bass Chorus (Combined Intermediates)  
 Miss Lillian Gunnis, Director

- (a)—"Hark! Hark! The Lark! ....  
 ..... Schubert (arr. by Baldwin)  
 (b)—Almighty Lord "Intermezzo  
 from Cavalleria Rusticana"...  
 ..... Mascagni (arr. by Page)  
 Three-Part Mixed Chorus

TRI-CITY HIGH SCHOOLS AND  
 STUDENTS FROM AUGUSTANA

AND  
 ST. AMBROSE COLLEGES

- (a)—Overture, "Gloriana" ..... White  
 (b)—March ..... Mendelssohn  
 Tri-City School Orchestras  
 Miss Anna Johannsen, Director

- (a)—To a Wild Rose.....  
 ..... MacDowell-Ambrose  
 (b)—Pakoble ..... Lieurance  
 (c)—Tripping Lightly ..... Marzo  
 (d)—Around the Gipsy Fires .....  
 ..... Brahms-Ambrose  
 (e)—Moonlit Meadows .... Czibulka-Page  
 Combined Girls' Glee Clubs—Moline,  
 Davenport, East Moline  
 Miss Marie Margaret Hinnemann,  
 Director.

Everyone who heard the splendid singing of the St. Olaf's Choir at the St. Joseph Conference, will be interested to know that their director, Professor Christiansen has recently been decorated with the royal Norwegian order of St. Olaf, carrying with it the title of Knight Commander. The St. Olaf Choir is about to start upon its third American concert tour. Another item of interest in this connection is that Dr. J. J. Wolle of the famous Bach Choir of Bethlehem, Pa., will be present as guest of honor at the concert given in the Metropolitan Opera House January 17.



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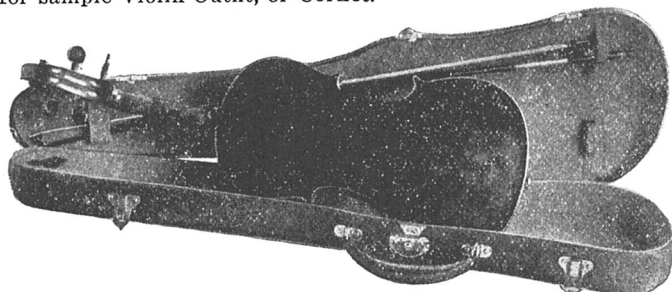
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